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REMARKS

Claims 1-21 were pending in the patent application. The Examiner has required restriction between claims stating that Claims 1-11 and 18-20 are drawn to a network node device, while Claims 12-17 and 21 are drawn to call initialization. By this amendment, Applicants withdraw Claims 12-17 and 21 from consideration at this time. Applicants also submit amendments to independent Claim 1 and add Claims 22-23, as fully supported by the original Specification (see: e.g., page 23).

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1-11 under 35 USC 102(b) as anticipated by Snelling; Claims 1, 2 and 6 under 35 USC 102(b) as anticipated by Chambers; and, Claims 18-20 under 35 USC as unpatentable over the teachings of Snelling in view of Chambers. Based on the amendments found herein, and on the reasons set forth below, Applicants respectfully assert that all of the pending claims are patentable over the cited prior art.

The Snelling patent document (WO 98/49850) discloses a system for connecting telecommunications infrastructure lines to telephones, handsets, computers, etc. The Snelling

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system includes a network control unit which forms the center of a star topology and which communicates via an RF link with wireless access units and handsets within the building. The Snelling disclosure is directed to an internal network at the building (i.e., residence) comprising a plurality of user devices for which connection is required, the Wireless Access Units (WAUs), for interacting with a Network Control Unit (NCU). Each of the WAUs communicates only with the local NCU, which in turn is connected to all of the wirelines that are available at the location. Based on programming provided by the owner/user at the residence, the NCU connects each WAU to one of the wirelines (see: page 7, line 29 through page 19 and page 9, lines 1-11). The Snelling patent document does not, however, teach or suggest a network node device comprising one or more connections to one or more telephone wirelines for receiving incoming calls each specifying a telephone number; one or more wireless signal generators supporting one or more direct wireless connections to one or more wireless devices; one or more controllable interconnections between the telephone wirelines and the wireless signal generators; means for associating a called telephone number

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with at least two wireless devices; means for alerting the at least two wireless devices associated with the called telephone number of a first incoming call; means for accepting one of said wireless devices as the answerer of said first incoming call to conduct the first incoming call with said wireless device; and means for transmitting a second incoming call, directed to the called telephone number, to one of the other wireless devices associated with that telephone number whilst the first call is in progress, as is now recited in Claim 1, and in Claims 2-11, 18-20, and 22-23 which include all of the limitations of Claim 1.

For a reference to anticipate another invention under 35 USC § 102(b), the patent must clearly teach each and every claimed feature of the anticipated invention. Since the Snelling patent document clearly does not teach the network node device as now claimed, it cannot be maintained that the Snelling patent document anticipates each and every claim feature.

In light of the fact that the Snelling patent document does not show each and every feature of the claimed invention, Applicants respectfully request that the

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rejection of Claims 1-11 based on 35 USC § 102(b) be withdrawn.

In response to the rejection of Claims 1, 2 and 6 as anticipated by the Chambers patent, Applicants respectfully note that the Chambers patent, which discloses a system for connecting telecommunications lines to telephones, handsets, computers and other end user interfaces or consumer electronics devices in a residence or business, does not teach or suggest the invention as set forth in the amended Claim 1, and in Claims 2 and 6 which depend therefrom. The Chambers patent does not provide a network node device comprising one or more connections to one or more telephone wirelines for receiving incoming calls each specifying a telephone number; one or more wireless signal generators supporting one or more direct wireless connections to one or more wireless devices; one or more controllable interconnections between the telephone wirelines and the wireless signal generators; means for associating a called telephone number with at least two wireless devices; means for alerting the at least two wireless devices associated with the called telephone number of a first incoming call; means for accepting one of said wireless devices as the

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answerer of said first incoming call to conduct the first incoming call with said wireless device; and means for transmitting a second incoming call, directed to the called telephone number, to one of the other wireless devices associated with that telephone number whilst the first call is in progress, as is now recited in Claim 1, and in Claims 2 and 6 which include all of the limitations of Claim 1.

For a reference to anticipate another invention under 35 USC § 102(b), the patent must clearly teach each and every claimed feature of the anticipated invention. Since the Chambers patent clearly does not teach the network node device as now claimed, it cannot be maintained that the Chambers patent anticipates each and every claim feature.

In light of the fact that the Chambers patent does not show each and every feature of the claimed invention, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of Claims 1, 2 and 6 based on 35 USC § 102(b) be withdrawn.

With regard to the rejections of Claims 18-20, Applicants respectfully note that all of those claims depend, directly or indirectly, on Claim 1 and contain all of the limitations of Claim 1. As concluded above, neither the Snelling patent document nor the Chambers patent teaches

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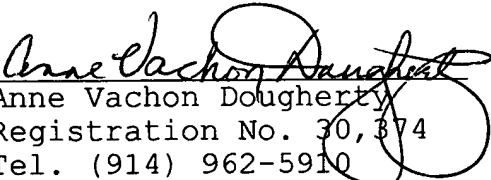
or suggests the invention set forth in the claim as amended. While the Chambers patent may provide power supply teachings, that alone is not sufficient to obviate the claims which include all of the limitations of Claim 1.

Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request entry of the amendments and allowance of the claims.

Respectfully submitted,

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